

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Member  
Only

No. 580

Washington, D. C.

December 7, 1935

## **Recommends Transfer of Skeletonized N. R. A. to Commerce Department**

The Business Advisory Council at a meeting on December 4th adopted a resolution "that the personnel and functions of the skeleton N. R. A. be transferred to the Department of Commerce where kindred activities and surveys connected with business and industry are conducted by trained career men, conversant with the background of those problems of business and industry which were temporarily dealt with by the N. R. A. during the emergency."

The Council likewise adopted a resolution endorsing the point of view expressed by Secretary of Commerce Roper in his address of November 13th before the Associated Grocery Manufacturers, and urging that the Administration adhere to the principles advocated by the Secretary of Commerce.

The Council submitted a report from its special committee on the organization and functions of the Council, which was concurred in by the Secretary of Commerce. This report proposed that the Council, in continuing its activities, should confine its work in principle to (1) consideration of such questions involving the work of the Department of Commerce as may be referred to the Council by the Secretary of Commerce, and (2) consideration of such additional problems as may be referred to the Council by the Secretary of Commerce or by the President.

The committee's report recommended that the Council consist of 52 men from private business and industry, or otherwise directly associated with those activities which fall within the province of the Department of Commerce, chosen to be broadly representative not only from a geographic but from a business and industrial point of view; that the membership change periodically so that the Council may enjoy the benefits which accrue from the introduction of new personalities and fresh points of view, without losing continuity of opinion and unity of action; that the term of the 26 members of the Council oldest in point of service be deemed to end December 31, 1935, and the term of the remaining members continue to December 31, 1936; that the Secretary of Commerce appoint, as of January 1, 1936, enough members to the Council to provide a total membership of 52; that the present members of the Council, whatever the length of their service, shall be eligible for reappointment for a term of one year.

### **Topics to Come Before Berry Conference**

Major George L. Berry, Coordinator for Industrial Cooperation, announced in a press statement on December 5th that unemployment and taxation apparently will be the predominant topics of discussion in the conferences which he has called and which begin in Washington on December 9th. This statement is based, it is said, on an analysis of the letters his office has received from industry and labor.

In earlier announcements concerning the conferences, the subject of taxation has received little or no mention as one of the subjects that would be considered.

### **Agreements with Canada and Brazil Proclaimed**

President Roosevelt on December 2nd officially proclaimed the trade agreements between the United States and Canada and between the United States and Brazil. The changes in customs duties under these agreements will become effective January 1, 1936.

With the announcement of the proclamation there was made public a letter from the President to the Secretary of the Treasury designating the countries products from which will be accorded the rates granted to products of Canada and Brazil under the new agreements.

To France, including Algeria and its colonies, Indo-China, Madagascar, Reunion, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Guiana, and to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, the lowered duties will be granted until February 1, 1936.

To Denmark, Italy, and Portugal and its colonies and possessions, the lowered rates will be granted until thirty days from the date that notification is given the United States of the termination of most-favored-nation treatment.

To other countries, except Germany, the lowered rates are granted indefinitely. In the case of Germany, whose treatment of American commerce is discriminatory, it is directed that the reduced duties shall not be applied.

The provisions of the agreement with Brazil as they affect canned foods exported to that country were noted in the INFORMATION LETTER for November 16th. The Canadian agreement was reported in the INFORMATION LETTER for November 23rd.

The Canadian agreement, while for a term of three years ending December 31, 1938 (unless sooner terminated under provisions set out in the agreement), will remain in force after that date unless six months before December 31, 1938, the government of either country gives notice of intention to terminate the agreement. If extended beyond the three-year period, the agreement can be terminated only after six months' notice.

### **Home Canning in Virginia Under F.E.R.A.**

Fruits and vegetables to the amount of 2,176,000 quarts were canned in Virginia in 1935 under the direction of the Food Preservation Specialist, Miss Eleanor Enright, who had charge of the program sponsored by the Subsistence Gardens Division of the State. The food was grown in 27,320 gardens, representing an acreage of 15,000, located in 96 counties and 15 cities of Virginia.

The value of the pack was estimated to be \$400,000. The valuation is based on retail prices for standard grade of No. 3 cans of commercially canned foods. In other words, the current market price of standard canned foods in No. 3's was taken as the basis for the computations.

Twenty-five per cent of the home canned pack was tomatoes, fifteen per cent was soup mixtures. The remainder was distributed among other fruits and vegetables.

This program of home canning was in addition to the regular canning program of the extension service of Virginia.

### **Suggests Requirement for Filing Special Discounts**

Reference was made in last week's INFORMATION LETTER to amendments to existing laws recommended by the Federal Trade Commission in its annual report. One of these recommendations was that section 2 of the Clayton Act be amended so as clearly to define the discrimination in price covered by that section.

In this connection the Commission also suggested that "consideration be given to the enactment of legislation supplementing section 2 so as to require all manufacturers of merchandise, other than perishables, selling in interstate commerce, to report promptly to the Federal Trade Commission whenever they make special discounts and allowances which are not openly and generally made and published to the trade; failure to make such reports or the making of willfully incorrect reports to be subjected to penalty." The Commission pointed out that the volume of work flowing from the requirements of such reports would necessitate substantial appropriations to administer the provision.

### **Frost Damage in Florida**

The heavy frost in the Everglades section of Florida, which occurred Sunday morning, December 1st, killed 75 to 90 per cent of the snap bean crop, and caused an approximate loss of 1,000 carloads of fall beans that would have moved during December, according to a report to the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics from its representative in Orlando. About 4,000 to 5,000 acres of winter beans were also killed, with only 1,000 to 1,500 acres escaping frost injury. Ship-

ments of beans will be very light for the next three or four weeks or until the Broward County crop, planted after the hurricane of November 4th, is ready for harvest.

It is not yet possible to determine the extent of the damage to the green pea crop, if any, in the Everglades section. However, the early reports concerning the potato crop indicate 40 per cent loss, or a reduction of about 400 acres in that section.

In Hardee County, 40 per cent of the eggplant and 20 per cent of the pepper crops were destroyed by frost. Since only a small acreage of eggplant was involved and the pepper harvest of 400 acres in this county was nearly over, the total losses would not greatly affect the pepper or eggplant movement. No damage has been reported from the Fort Meyers, Palmetto, Fort Pierce, Pompano, Sanford, or Winter Garden districts.

#### Source List of Non-Theatrical Films

The Specialty-Motion Picture Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has issued a revision of its list of non-theatrical film sources first published in 1932. It contains a classified list of sources from which films may be obtained, showing whether they are distributed on a free, rental or sales basis.

#### Bulletin on Health and Safety of Women in Industry

The Women's Bureau has issued as Bulletin No. 136 a revision of its earlier publication dealing with health problems of women in industry. The bulletin deals with working conditions (factory planning and equipment), industrial hazards, wages, working time and protection of the worker in the plant and at home. It is sold by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, at 5 cents per copy.

#### Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

CARLOT SHIPMENTS AS REPORTED BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity	Week ending		Week ending	Total for season	
	Nov. 30 1934	Nov. 30 1935	Nov. 23 1935	through Nov. 30 1934 1935	
Vegetables:					
Beans, snap. and lima.....	334	259	277	14,120	11,198
Tomatoes .....	201	134	87	25,296	23,256
Green peas .....	81	101	74	6,808	7,457
Spinach .....	141	112	124	8,355	2,082
All other vegetables:					
Domestic, competing directly	4,097	2,835	3,656	139,130	118,553
Imports, competing indirectly	22	90	80	475	666
Fruits:					
Citrus, domestic .....	3,694	3,232	2,978	18,492	14,128
Imports .....	2	7	4	248	347
Others, domestic .....	418	217	366	51,771	48,982

### Ozark Association Meets in January

The annual meeting of the Ozark Cannery Association has been set for January 9th and 10th at the Colonial Hotel in Springfield, Mo.

### Preliminary Report on Beet Pack

The following preliminary report on the 1935 pack of beets has been compiled by the N. C. A. Statistical Division, and is designated as "preliminary" because it includes the seasonal pack only and also because a few packers' reports were not received in time to be included.

The figures are presented on a sectional basis. The report for the Eastern group of states covers the pack of those firms who in 1934 packed 96.4 per cent of the pack of that area. In the Mid-West group, 77.6 per cent of the 1934 report is represented in this report. For the Western group, this report represents 100 per cent. If the pack of the non-reporters bears the same relation to their 1934 pack as the pack of those whose reports have been received, the total pack for 1935 would be about 1,900,000 cases, as compared to 1,801,764 cases in 1934.

The final report of the beet pack will include both the seasonal and non-seasonal pack to January 1st and will be comparable with the report issued for the 1934 pack.

EAST	2	1 E	2½	10	Misc.	Total
Whole .....	91,085	247	30,932	56,396	39,288	218,548
Cut .....	42,670	1,841	124,211	48,229	...	216,851
Sliced .....	90,597	1,353	9,021	58,452	144,938	305,261
Diced .....	18,368	4,647	138	19,952	10,430	53,535
Total .....	243,220	8,088	165,202	183,029	194,656	794,195
MID-WEST						
Whole .....	74,293	1,271	51,888	35,555	413	163,420
Cut .....	117,474	...	160,139	58,304	100	336,017
Sliced .....	53,200	249	28,085	28,148	370	110,052
Diced .....	38,327	2,443	2,571	9,434	3,440	56,224
Total .....	283,294	3,963	242,683	131,441	4,332	665,713
WEST						
Whole .....	23,342	180	1,372	7,235	...	32,135
Cut .....	10,251	...	9,129	8,010	...	27,390
Sliced .....	71,214	528	1,364	43,322	11,074	127,502
Diced .....	15,331	181	951	10,059	1,353	27,875
Total .....	120,138	895	12,816	68,626	12,427	214,902
Grand total....	646,652	12,946	420,701	383,096	211,415	1,674,810

In the above table the figures for cut beets packed in No. 1 E, No. 2½ and No. 10 cans in the Eastern section are revised from those given in the report sent to beet canners under date of November 30th. The total pack of cut beets in the Eastern section is not affected by this revision.

### **Hearing on Washington Fresh Vegetable Agreement**

A proposed marketing agreement and order for handlers of fresh lettuce, peas and cauliflower grown in western Washington will be considered at a public hearing which will be held December 18th at Seattle, Washington. The proposed marketing agreement and order would replace the existing marketing agreement and license, and would provide for regulation of shipments by grades and sizes, and provide for period proration of shipments.

### **Evaporated Milk Agreement Committees' Budgets Approved**

The budgets of the Producers' Committee and the Manufacturers' Committee functioning under the evaporated milk marketing agreement, as approved by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, provides for \$38,200 for operating expenses of the Producers' Committee from June 1, 1935, to May 31, 1936, and \$5,603.88 per month for the Manufacturers' Committee for the period June 1 to December 31, 1935. Manufacturers of evaporated milk will contribute .01435 of a cent per case per month for each case of evaporated milk shipped by a manufacturer during 1934.

### **British Columbia Salmon Pack**

British Columbia's canned salmon production in 1935 will slightly exceed the average annual output for the 10-year period immediately preceding, according to the American commercial attache, Ottawa. From 1926 to 1934 the yearly average salmon pack of the Province was 1,541,860 cases. The 1935 pack is estimated at approximately 1,600,000 cases, compared with 1,583,000 cases in 1934.

It is expected that the 1935 sockeye pack will amount to approximately 350,000 cases, or about 20,000 cases less than in 1934. The pack of pinks and chums is expected to exceed that of 1934 and cohoes have been running ahead of last year's production. There has been some reduction in the pack of springs, bluebacks and steelheads.

### **To Coordinate Bureau's Statistical Service**

The office of Chief Statistician of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce for the purpose of effecting a more practical adaptation of the statistical resources of the Bureau to the requirements of business was recently established by the Secretary of Commerce. The new unit is headed by Clyde R. Chambers, until recently Director of the Division of Economics and Statistics in the Public Works Administration, and prior to that Acting Chief of the Division of Research and Statistics of the Treasury Department.



The immediate function of the chief statistician will be an inventory of existing statistical services for comparison with the needs of business and to initiate the procurement of such new data as are considered necessary.

### Tennessee-Kentucky Association Convention Date

The annual meeting of the Tennessee-Kentucky Cannery Association will be held at the Hotel Andrew Jackson in Knoxville on February 3rd and 4th.

### Green and Wax Bean Pack

The 1935 pack of snap beans, according to statistics compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, totaled 6,682,554 cases, all sizes, of which 5,608,797 cases were green and 1,073,757 cases were wax beans. These statistics are based on the reported operations of 366 firms and on estimates of the pack of 16 firms. The estimates are believed to be as accurate as possible.

This report indicates the total pack was somewhat smaller than was anticipated earlier in the season. The size of the pack, however, does not indicate the availability of supplies; it is merely a record of the packing operations for the 1935 season. Supplies available for the remainder of the year are indicated by the stocks that are now on hand.

The 1935 pack of green and wax beans, as compared with earlier years, is as follows, in cases of all sizes of containers:

	1931 Cases	1932 Cases	1933 Cases	1934 Cases	1935 Cases
Green .....	4,615,286	3,284,112	4,618,356	4,809,806	5,608,797
Wax .....	1,161,852	592,489	673,055	1,103,615	1,073,757
Total .....	5,777,138	3,876,601	5,291,411	6,003,511	6,682,554

The following table shows the pack of green and wax beans in 1935, by states, in different sizes of containers:

State GREEN	No. 2 Cases	No. 1 E Cases	No. 2½ Cases	No. 10 Cases	Misc. Cases	Total Cases
Maine and Vermont.....	93,453	913	....	8,140	....	102,506
New York .....	567,772	18,172	1,764	120,805	46,462	755,035
Maryland and Delaware..	1,061,478	3,524	12,296	202,561	....	1,279,859
Pennsylvania .....	144,546	1,002	3,930	10,422	1,414	170,334
Indiana .....	221,012	16,012	29,753	60,952	412	328,141
Michigan .....	464,078	14,180	11,775	38,019	1,371	529,423
Wisconsin .....	434,675	8,007	10,825	96,194	4,404	574,105
Iowa .....	59,937	1,331	....	7,301	....	68,569
Kentucky and Tennessee.	113,072	....	6,006	33,492	....	152,570
Arkansas and Missouri..	112,246	3,609	3,650	21,903	....	141,408
Texas .....	58,110	350	....	9,203	....	67,663

State GREEN	No. 2 Cases	No. 1 E Cases	No. 2½ Cases	No. 10 Cases	Misc. Cases	Total Cases
Colorado .....	107,342	15,323	....	13,637	....	136,302
Utah .....	136,678	1,363	....	10,285	1,007	157,733
Washington .....	104,754	3,082	14,678	35,279	256	158,049
Oregon .....	239,508	6,031	325	184,229	25,761	455,854
California .....	164,051	1,218	....	40,253	34,589	240,111
Other States .....	238,003	996	15,921	36,195	20	291,135
Total .....	4,340,115	95,113	110,943	946,930	115,696	5,608,797

## WAX

Maine and Vermont.....	174,228	1,975	....	16,724	....	192,927
New York .....	221,260	5,259	1,046	32,345	31,736	291,646
Maryland and Delaware..	13,728	41	362	3,881	....	18,012
Pennsylvania .....	31,226	1,946	....	1,920	....	35,092
Michigan .....	122,427	8,263	....	26,034	6,189	162,913
Wisconsin .....	244,116	4,102	57	21,670	1,049	270,994
Iowa .....	22,474	640	....	1,772	....	24,886
Arkansas and Missouri..	10,353	244	....	3,974	....	14,571
Colorado .....	29,419	5,738	....	2,626	....	37,783
Utah .....	12,273	....	....	796	....	12,979
Other States .....	10,870	39	....	....	1,045	11,954
Total .....	892,374	28,247	1,465	111,632	40,019	1,073,757

## CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Recommends transfer of skeletonized N.R.A. to Commerce Department .....	4777	Fruit and vegetable market competition .....	4780
Topics to come before Berry conference .....	4778	Ozark Association meets in January .....	4781
Agreements with Canada and Brazil proclaimed .....	4778	Preliminary report on beet pack..	4781
Home canning in Virginia under F.E.R.A. ....	4779	Hearing on Washington fresh vegetable agreement .....	4782
Suggests requirement for filing special discounts .....	4779	Evaporated milk agreement committees' budgets approved.....	4782
Frost damage in Florida.....	4779	British Columbia salmon pack....	4782
Source list of non-theatrical films.	4780	To coordinate Bureau's statistical service .....	4782
Bulletin on health and safety of women in industry.....	4780	Tennessee-Kentucky Association convention date .....	4783
		Green and wax bean pack.....	4783